

## **Amendments to the Abstract**

Please add the following abstract on a separate sheet:

### **Abstract**

#### **Isolation of Nucleic Acids Using a Polycationic Polymer as Precipitation Agent**

The present invention relates to a method of isolating a desired nucleic acid from a biological solution, which method comprises to selectively precipitate the desired nucleic acid by adding a polycationic precipitating agent to the solution and allowing it to form a complex with said nucleic acid, wherein the precipitating agent is a highly charged linear polymer that comprises quaternary amino groups. The polycationic precipitating agent is preferably added in such an amount that the charge ratio  $[+]/[-]$  between polycationic precipitating agent and nucleic acid is  $\geq 0.5$ , preferably  $\geq 0.9$  and most preferably  $\geq 1$  during the precipitation, and in the presence of a salt concentration ensuring the quantitative specific precipitation of the nucleic acid/polycation complex.